

CENTRAL ARKANSAS LIBRARY SYSTEM | SPRING 2020

NEWS & EVENTS

A young girl with long brown hair is looking through a telescope. She is wearing a purple shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. The telescope is mounted on a tripod.

THE
LIBRARY,
REWRITTEN.

CALS

CENTRAL ARKANSAS
LIBRARY SYSTEM

The Central Arkansas Library System serves the educational and entertainment needs of Pulaski and Perry County residents, with 15 unique library branches and the Library Square campus in downtown Little Rock. Card holders enjoy access to more than one million items, including books, audiobooks, ebooks, DVDs, periodicals, databases, telescopes, bird-watching kits, and even fishing poles. Our virtual branch, cals.org, is open 24/7, allowing patrons to download ebooks, audiobooks, music, magazines, movies, and TV shows.

Your Library. Rewritten. Re-invented. Reimagined.

Public libraries have been completely transformed in the last twenty years. From the rise of the internet and digital media formats to the new digital economy, vast changes in our public culture have called on CALS to serve the people of our community in ever more innovative ways. And we're still innovating.



Whether your public library is helping you find a new career path in a tech-savvy world, keeping wonder alive for you and your family with free telescopes, or streaming your new audiobook or movie straight to your phone, we are listening to you and identifying new needs as they arise. We're here to help you write your own life story the way you dream it.

We create new collections like our tool library, stocked with hundreds of free tools for home improvement, bike repair, or car repair.

We close the digital divide with free computer and internet access and thousands of live classes in software and tech skills.

We bring community partners and people together for programs in entrepreneurship, caregiving, cooking & nutrition, yoga, GED classes, art, drama, and more.

Every day, we help people who walk into our libraries looking for bus routes, or a notary public, or a place to charge their phones. Sometimes they need a free conference room for their club to meet every month. Sometimes they need a meal or a place to stay, and we connect at-risk people with those resources with the help of compassionate, trained staff and nonprofit partnerships.

People also need pure fun and entertainment, and we've got that at our state-of-the-art theater, with low-cost movies and high-quality musical concerts. Gift-seekers find literary gifts, used books, and Arkansas-made crafts and jewelry in

our art galleries and retail stores. Hundreds browse our art openings every month at Library Square, entertained by live music and enjoying free refreshments.

This is your 21st-century library, rewritten. We've got a lot to offer you, and this newsletter will tell you more about our services, programs, and special events. Welcome!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nate Coulter".

Nate Coulter, Director

Locations

library square | 100 rock st.

main library

918-3000 | MON-THU | 9 AM-8 PM | FRI/SAT | 9 AM-6 PM
INSIDE: NEXUS COFFEE NOOK

bobby l. roberts library of arkansas history & art

INSIDE: BUTLER CENTER FOR ARKANSAS STUDIES AND THE GALLERIES
AT LIBRARY SQUARE
320-5700 | MON-SAT | 9 AM-6 PM

the bookstore at library square

918-3093 | MON-SAT | 9 AM-5 PM
INSIDE: JIMMY'S SERIOUS SANDWICHES

cals ron robinson theater

320-5715 | HOURS VARY BASED ON SCHEDULED EVENTS

branches

millie m. brooks library

13024 HWY 365 S. | WRIGHTSVILLE | 537-3186
MON-FRI | 9 AM-6 PM

dee brown library

6325 BASELINE RD. | LITTLE ROCK | 568-7494
MON/TUE/THU | 10 AM-8 PM | WED/FRI/SAT | 10 AM-6 PM | SUN | 1-5 PM

hillary rodham clinton children's library &

learning center

4800 W. 10TH ST. | LITTLE ROCK | 978-3870
MON-SAT | 9 AM-6 PM

john gould fletcher library

823 N. BUCHANAN ST. | LITTLE ROCK | 663-5457
MON/TUE/WED | 9 AM-8 PM | THU/FRI/SAT | 9 AM-6 PM

maumelle library

10 LAKE POINTE DR. | MAUMELLE | 851-2551
MON/TUE/THU | 10 AM-8 PM | WED/FRI/SAT | 10 AM-6 PM

sidney s. mcmath library

2100 JOHN BARROW RD. | LITTLE ROCK | 225-0066
MON/TUE/WED | 10 AM-8 PM | THU/FRI/SAT | 10 AM-6 PM | SUN | 1-5 PM

max milam library

609 APLIN AVE. | PERRYVILLE | 501-889-2554
MON/WED/THU/FRI/SAT | 10 AM-6 PM | TUE | 10 AM-8 PM

esther dewitt nixon library

703 W. MAIN ST. | JACKSONVILLE | 457-5038
MON/WED/FRI/SAT | 9:30 AM-6 PM | TUE/THU | 9:30 AM-8 PM

oley e. rooker library

11 OTTER CREEK CT. | LITTLE ROCK | 907-5991
MON/WED/THU | 10 AM-8 PM | TUE/FRI/SAT | 10 AM-6 PM

amy sanders library

10200 JOHNSON DR. | SHERWOOD | 835-7756
MON/WED/FRI/SAT | 9:30 AM-6 PM | TUE/THU | 9:30 AM-8 PM | SUN | 1-5 PM

adolphine fletcher terry library

2015 NAPA VALLEY DR. | LITTLE ROCK | 228-0129
MON/WED/THU | 9 AM-8 PM | TUE/FRI/SAT | 9 AM-6 PM | SUN | 1-5 PM

roosevelt thompson library

38 RAHLING CIR. | LITTLE ROCK | 821-3060
MON/TUE/THU | 9 AM-8 PM | WED/FRI/SAT | 9 AM-6 PM

sue cowan williams library

1800 CHESTER ST. | LITTLE ROCK | 376-4282
MON/WED/FRI/SAT | 10 AM-6 PM | TUE/THU | 10 AM-8 PM

Table of Contents

Family

The Library, Rewritten.	4
Be Mighty After-School Meal Schedule	7
Storytimes	7

Teens

CALS Con	8
Dungeons and Dragons Club at Unleashes Creativity, Problem-Solving	9

Adults

CALS Raises Awareness of Importance of 2020 Census	10
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Special Events

Six Bridges Book Festival Brings New Name to Popular Celebration	12
NEA Big Read	14
Six Bridges Book Boyfriend Battle	15
Movies	15
Into the Woods Art Exhibition Delights Tree-Lovers	16
Art Exhibitions, Speakers, and Concerts	17

Community

Milam Library to Dedicate Public Meeting Room	18
Photographers Show Small Libraries Make a Difference	19

Classes & Clubs

Tech Classes	20
Book Clubs	21

Check It Out

What are You Reading? Stephanie Jackson	22
Used Book Sale	22
Staff Picks: Pam Rudkin	23
Arkansas Art Thrives at CALS	23

The newsletter of the Central Arkansas Library System

March | June | September | December

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The Library, Rewritten.

Giving You New Tools to Write Your Own Story



In the 21st century, we're all reinventing ourselves every day to learn how to live in a digital world.

We seek new ways to work and to create in a new economy. We want to find meaningful relationships, teach our children, and help our communities, even though the resources we use have changed. We're all constantly writing and rewriting our own stories—stories of dreams and human potential. And those stories need new digital resources, new meeting spaces, and new opportunities for relationship-building and fun.

Your new stories need a new kind of library to help you write them.

That's why public libraries like your Central Arkansas Library System are no longer totally hushed, quiet places for reading only. At Library Square in Little Rock, there's always a hive of activity humming around the library's campus.

Inside Main Library, groups are using the meeting rooms not only for hundreds of free library programs, but also for crafting clubs, baby showers, business meetings, bible study groups, or political gatherings of all stripes. Patrons in fitness gear walk by looking dreamy and relaxed after their free yoga or meditation classes. Others come in to get documents notarized by licensed notaries on staff, or to fax or use the internet. In the tech classrooms, in-person instructors are teaching free classes in valuable skills like MS Excel, Photoshop, web design, and programming. Crowds throng to the library's state-of-the-art theater for movies and concerts, then socialize at our art galleries, gift shop and used bookstore. The Nexus Nook offers coffee and pastries and Jimmy's Serious Sandwiches makes gourmet quick meals.

This busy hum is going on in all 15 library branches around the system. After school and in summer, the Be Mighty program connects kids and teens with nutritious meals to prevent hunger for those at risk of food insecurity. Jammel Johnson, Library Assistant at the CALS Millie Brooks Library, enjoys the way his job

allows him to help kids. “Whether they have a need for our food programs or they just need a safe place to spend time, play games, or read, we really operate like a household,” Johnson said. “We’re very family oriented.”

In 2019, the library system opened a digital studio at the CALS Williams Library to support content creation and marketing for online businesses, including a green screen, tripod, microphone, and product photography table as well as computers and design software. Soon, Main Library will add even more creative workspace and resources.

We are listening to your stories and rewriting our role to offer innovative new checkouts beyond books. With a library card, you can take home an educational toy or costume for the perfect play date, a fishing pool for that weekend getaway, a telescope for backyard camping, birdwatching kits to learn about nature, musical instruments for your children, or the tools you need to finish that home repair.

Tool Librarian Rachel Tanner enjoys seeing the reaction of patrons to the surprising existence of a tool library. “You can see their minds taking off at the idea of making, doing, or creating something. It’s very exciting to see people imagining the possibilities.”

Tanner described how someone recently borrowed a tool from the library to diagnose a car problem, and had the cause figured out in ten minutes. That tool costs at least \$200 new, showing that savings from even a single checkout can be considerable. In another case, a person who had just divorced and was left without tools was able to borrow a number of tools for the tasks that come with setting up a new household.

The telescope-lending program has brought joy to users who come back with stories about their experiences. One man hosted several star parties for his whole neighborhood with the CALS telescope. A young woman who checked out a telescope was inspired by her experience to begin attending meetings of the Central Arkansas Astronomical Society. She now sits on the board of that organization as she continues to use library telescopes to pursue her new love of astronomy.

Library staff members serve you in an endless variety of ways that go far beyond book check-outs. Donna Higgins, Serials System Manager, sees all the ways people benefit when she works at the desk.

“They come to use the charging stations, because a lot of them don’t have places to charge their devices,” Higgins said. “Some patrons need help because they don’t know how to read, so they need a lot of assistance with the computer. A lot of them are older. We also try to encourage them to go to Literacy Action of



Central Arkansas, which is in the library building. If they can read but don’t know how to use the computer, we encourage them to go to our free digital literacy classes.”

Allen Jarvis, Manager of CALS Milam Library, appreciates the rewards libraries can bring patrons by offering free classes taught by expert partner organizations. “For me, personally, the one thing that happens here that I’m most proud of, that most hits home for me, are the GED classes. My mom was a GED graduate so I know firsthand how the lives of those who complete their GED will be changed.”

The library never gives up on serving the entire community. In 2019, CALS hired a full-time licensed social worker to help connect vulnerable and homeless populations with services they need. This Community Resource Specialist now serves as an expert resource for patrons as well as training library staff to help in compassionate and effective ways.

CALS staff works every day to support the welcoming, relationship-building activities that happen in our buildings.

Susie Sward, Adult Programmer at CALS Fletcher Library, teaches free art classes so popular that they frequently have waiting lists. There, you can receive encouraging instruction to discover your talents while socializing with like-minded creative types. One memorable adult student who developed his abilities

and learned to love art was David Johnson, who has Down Syndrome.

“My goal with my art classes is to make art accessible to all,” Sward said. “It is a joy to watch patrons’ faces light up at the results of their efforts, and David is no exception. When we say access for all, we mean access for all, and David’s experience is proof of that.”

Stewart Fuell, who leads the library’s Word Virus Book Club, holds it in a local brewery where participants can talk over pizza. “The most valuable result of Word Virus Book Club has been the relationships that form between the people,” Fuell said. “The social aspect is very important. We all need social interaction. Because of social media, we’re more connected in some ways, but more isolated in others. So meeting up is more important now than it has been in a long time.”

Jessica Butkovic, Assistant Manager of CALS Thompson Library, sees the relationships that thrive there. “I’ve seen seniors and school-aged kids working together to teach each other new things about knitting. I saw a lovely couple get married in our meeting room. She wore a kente cloth dress and the groom was beaming with a huge grin on his face. Mostly, I just see people using our places like they should be using them. Like a friend’s home. Many feel welcome, trust that they’ll find help, and appreciate what we have to offer.”

Come in and check out your 21st century library—rewritten, to help you write your own story today.

children & family programs

Programs listed here include only regular meetings (weekly unless otherwise indicated). Find many more branch library events online at CALS.org.

dee brown library

Dinner and a Movie

SAT | MAR 7; APR 4 | 2 PM

Bicycle Workshop

SAT | MAR 21; MAY 2, 30 | 10 AM

children's library

Little Kids in the Kitchen

MON | 10 AM | AGES 2-5

STEAM Team

TUE | 4 PM | AGES 7-12

Garden to Kitchen

WED | 4 PM

Tail-Waggin' Tutors

THU | 3:30-5 PM

fletcher library

Design Day

MON | 2:30 PM

Paper Crafts

TUE | 2:30 PM

Word Puzzle Wednesday

WED | MAR 4; APR 8; MAY 6 | 3:30-4:30 PM

Art Day

THU | MAR 5, 19; APR 2, 16; MAY 14 | 3:30-4:30 PM

Wilderness Wednesday

WED | MAR 11; APR 15; MAY 13 | 3:30-4:30 PM

Art Journals

THU | MAR 12; APR 9, 23; MAY 7, 21 | 3:30-4:30 PM

Wii U Wednesday

WED | MAR 18; APR 22; MAY 20 | 3:30-4:30 PM

World Culture Wednesday

WED | APR 1, 29 | 3:30-4:30 PM

main library

After-School Activity

MON-FRI | 4-5 PM | AGES 6-12

Origami!

WED | 6-8 PM

Afternoon Antics

SAT | 3 PM | AGES 5-12

maumelle library

Family Movie Day

FRI | 3:30 PM (NOT MAR 27)

SRC Kickoff: Imagine Your Story

THU | MAY 14 | 6:30 PM

mcmath library

Family Art Night

MON | MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11 | 6-7 PM

Tail-Waggin' Tutors

SAT | MAR 14; APR 11; MAY 9 | 3-4 PM

LEGO® Club

MON | MAR 30; APR 27 | 6 PM

milam library

Weird Science

TUE | MAR 3, 10, 17, 31 | 3:30 PM | AGES 5-12

Take-Apart Table

SAT | MAR 14; APR 11; MAY 9 | 10:30 AM | AGES 5-10

nixon library

After School Adventures

TUE | 4:15-5 PM

Afternoon Movies

WED | 4-5:30 PM

Toy Library

WED/FRI | 11:15-11:45 AM | TODDLERS,
PRESCHOOLERS

Preschool LEGO® Builders

WED | MAR 4; APR 1; MAY 6 | 10:30-11:15 AM

Preschool Train Day

WED | MAR 18; APR 22; MAY 20 | 10:30-11:15 AM

Toddler Gym

FRI | MAR 20; APR 24; MAY 22 | 10:30-11:15 AM

Saturday Movies

SAT | MAR 21; APR 18 | 2-5 PM | FAMILY

rooker library

Movie Monday

MON | 4-5:30 PM

Happy Homeschoolers

TUE | 2 PM

Crafternoon Fun

THU | 4-5 PM | AGES 5-12

sanders library

STEAM Power

TUE | 3:30-4:30 PM | AGES 5-10 (NOT MAR 24)

Movin' and Groovin'

WED | 10:45-11:15 AM (NOT MAR 25)

Master Builders

THU | 3:30-4:30 PM | AGES 5-10 (NOT MAR 26)

Tinker Time

FRI | 10:45-11:15 AM (NOT MAR 27)

terry library

After-School Club

MON | 4 PM | AGES 8-12

LEGO® Jr. Makers

TUE | 4 PM | AGES 3-12

Pokemon Club

THU | MAR 12, 26; APR 9, 23; MAY 14, 28 | 4 PM |
AGES 7-18

Tail-Waggin' Tutors

THU | MAR 19; APR 16; MAY 21 | 4 PM | AGES 6-18

thompson library

LEGO® Crew

MON | 4-5 PM | AGES 5-12 (EXCEPT MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11)

Tail-Waggin' Tutors

MON | MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11 | 4-5 PM | AGES 5-8

Kids Café

TUE | MAR 17; APR 21; MAY 19 | 4-5 PM | AGES 6-18

Destination Exploration

WED | 4-5 PM | AGES 5-11

Little Kids Dance Party

FRI | 10-11 AM | AGES 5 & UNDER

williams library

Let's Move

WED | MAR 11; APR 8; MAY 13 | 3 PM | AGES 6-11

Family Dinner Night

THU | MAR 12; APR 9; MAY 14 | 6 PM | FAMILIES

Just Crafting Around

TUE | MAR 17; APR 21; MAY 19 | 3 PM | AGES 6-11

storytimes

Groups meet weekly unless otherwise noted.

children's library

WED, THU | 10 AM & 10:30 AM | TODDLERS

fletcher library

TUE | 10 AM | BABIES/TODDLERS/
PRESCHOOLERS
WED | 9:30 AM | BABIES/TODDLERS

main library

TUE | 10:30 AM | BABIES
THU | 10 AM | TODDLERS
THU | 11 AM | PRESCHOOLERS
FRI | 10:30 AM | AGES 5 & UNDER
SAT | 10:30 AM | FAMILIES

maumelle library

NO MEETINGS MAR 24-25
TUE | 10:30 AM | PRESCHOOLERS
TUE | 11:30 AM | AGE 6-11
(HOMESCHOOLERS)
WED | 10:30 AM | BABIES

mcmath library

FRI | 10:30 AM | BABIES/TODDLERS/
PRESCHOOLERS

milam library

TUE | 10:30 AM | PRESCHOOLERS

nixon library

WED | 10:30 AM | PRESCHOOLERS
FRI | 10:30 AM | TODDLERS

rooker library

TUE | 10:30 AM | BABIES/TODDLERS/
PRESCHOOLERS

sanders library

WED | 10 AM | TODDLERS
FRI | 10 AM | PRESCHOOLERS

terry library

MON | 9:30 AM | BABIES
MON | 10:30 AM | TODDLERS
TUE | 9:30 AM | TODDLERS
TUE | 10:30 AM | PRESCHOOLERS
THU | 9:30 AM | BABIES
THU | 10:30 AM | PRESCHOOLERS
THU | 11:30 AM | BABIES/TODDLERS/
PRESCHOOLERS

thompson library

MON | 9:30 AM | BABIES/TODDLERS
MON | 10:30 AM | PRESCHOOLERS
WED | 10 AM | PRESCHOOLERS
THU | 6 PM | BABIES/TODDLERS/
PRESCHOOLERS



BE MIGHTY

Eat. Play. Learn. **LITTLE ROCK.**

free after-school meals

Be Mighty Little Rock is a citywide campaign to connect kids and teens ages 18 and under to free meals and make sure no young person goes hungry. After-school meals are offered at the following CALS branches. For more information, visit BeMightyLittleRock.org

brooks library

MON/TUE/THU/FRI | 4-5 PM

dee brown library

MON-FRI | 4-4:45 PM

children's library

MON-FRI | 4-4:45 PM
SAT | 2-2:30 PM

fletcher library

MON-FRI | 4:30-5:30 PM

main library

MON-FRI | 3:45-4:45 PM
SAT | 2-3:30 PM

mcmath library

MON-FRI | 3:30-4:30 PM

nixon library

MON- WED | 4-5:30 PM

rooker library

MON-FRI | 3-3:45 PM

sanders library

MON-FRI | 3:30-5 PM

terry library

MON-THU | 4:30-5:30 PM

williams library

MON-FRI | 3:45-4:45 PM
SAT | NOON-1 PM

teen programs

Programs listed here include only regular meetings (weekly unless otherwise indicated). Find many more branch library events online at cals.org.

dee brown library

Video Game Wednesday

WED | APR-MAY | 4:45 PM

children's library

Teens in the Kitchen

SAT | MAR 7, 21; APR 4, 18; MAY 2, 16, 30 | 2:30 PM

FRI | MAR 27; APR 10, 24; MAY 8, 28 | 4:30 PM

fletcher library

Maker Monday

MON | MAR 2, 16, 30; APR 13, 27; MAY 11 | 3 PM

Movie Mondays

MON | MAR 9; APR 6, 20; MAY 4, 18 | 3 PM

Table Game Tuesday

TUE | 3 PM

Video Game Day

WED | 3 PM

TAB Choice

THU | 3 PM

main library

After-School Activity

MON-FRI | 4-5 PM

Teen Program

SAT | 2 PM

maumelle library

Café Olé

MON | 3:30-4:30 PM (NOT MAR 23)

Home Grown Teens

TUE | 11:30 AM (NOT MAR 24)

Teen Time Tuesdays

TUE | 3:30-4:30 PM

mcmath library

Wii Wednesday

WED | MAR 4; APR 1; MAY 6 | 6-7 PM

Eat and Learn

WED | MAR 11; APR 8; MAY 13 | 6-7 PM

Go Go Graphic!

WED | MAR 18; APR 15; MAY 20 | 6-7 PM

Teen Movie Night

WED | MAR 25; APR 22; MAY 27 | 5:30 PM

milam library

Friday Game Days

FRI | 4 PM (NO MEETINGS IN MAY)

Saturday Chat Coffee Hour

SAT | MAR 28; APR 25; MAY 30 | 10:30 AM

nixon library

ACASA Care

TUE | MAR 3-MAY 5 | 5:30-6:30 PM

Another Teen Time

TUE | MAY 12, 19 | 5:30-7 PM

Teen Time

FRI | 4-5:15 PM

rooker library

Wii Play Game Day

WED | 4-5 PM

Kids Karaoke

FRI | 4-5 PM

Art Project

SAT | MAR 14; APR 18; MAY 9 | 3 PM

sanders library

Bored Games

MON | 4-5 PM (NOT MAR 23)

D&D Club

MON/WED | 4-5:30 PM (NOT MAR 23 OR 25)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Teen Time

TUE-FRI | 4-5 PM (NOT MAR 24-27)

Dungeons & Dragons

FRI | 4-5:30 PM (NOT MAR 27)

terry library

Voluntery Teens

WED | 4 PM

thompson library

Teen Half & Half

THU | 4 PM

williams library

Movie Mondays

MON | 4 PM

Crafty Creations

TUE | MAR 10; APR 14; MAY 12 | 4:30 PM

Whip It Up

WED | MAR 4; APR 1; MAY 6 | 4:30 PM

Work Out Wednesdays

WED | MAR 18; APR 15; MAY 21 | 4:30 PM

Fun Fridays

FRI | 4:30 PM



CALS CON 2020

A CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS FANDOM

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES
SUPERHERO DRAWING CLASS (10:30 A.M.)
LEGO PLAY * BUTTON-MAKING
PANELS * SWAG * TRIVIA

SATURDAY * MARCH 7
10 AM-8 PM

LIBRARY SQUARE * 100 ROCK ST.

Dungeons and Dragons Club Unleashes Creativity and Problem-Solving Skills

On the outside, the CALS Sanders Library in Sherwood looks peaceful and serene. But inside, there is an epic battle raging, as the teen Dungeons and Dragons club takes on skeleton warriors with the help of bursts of magic and a fire sword.

CALS Staffer Emery Johnson is the expert Dungeon Master for the middle schoolers. As he role-plays to lead them along in the game, he adopts different voices for his characters. First, he is a pompous, British-sounding mayor: "That is my final word on the matter! I am not to be crossed!"

A few minutes later, he growls out lines like James Earl Jones as he plays an undead creature called a revenant who is like a zombie, but scarier. "This isn't what we agreed to," he says in a guttural voice. The players have gone back on their word to deliver a prisoner to the Revenant, and he is not pleased.

One of the teen players groans in dismay. "This is where everything goes wrong!"

Switching back to narrator voice, the Dungeon Master increases the suspense. "It's nighttime and you start to feel a rumble. His skeletal crew prepares. You hear faint sounds of marching."

Even as the players' eyes widen, you can see that they are loving every minute. Middle school is a tough time,



when teens are caught between the world of children and adults, and pressured to conform by their peers. In the world of Dungeons and Dragons, no one has to conform, wear the right clothes, or suppress their creativity. It all gets unleashed.

Daniel, one of the players, clearly enjoys that chance to spend time in a world where anything is possible. "I like

it because you can do whatever you want, whenever you want: use magic, or fly."

Daniel also appreciates his Dungeon Master's sense of humor and improvisational ability. "He's funny!"

Because the D&D club happens after school in a convenient location, students who might not otherwise get a chance to play are able to experience the game. "The library's really close, so when I get off school, I can just walk over here," a player said.

Another player, Charlie, understands the benefits of a little mental vacation. "It's a good way to get away from school, home, and anything that can be stressful. It's a great escape. I definitely like it."

Emery finds this work with teens satisfying. "I'd say the biggest reward from running D&D for them, aside from offering a safe place to hang out after school, is to help foster creativity and imagination. I also love being able to show them how their actions can have consequences later on." Emery described a recent game in which the players stopped working together and impulsively started a battle that led to the demise of their characters. "It taught them two important lessons: violence doesn't solve every issue, and working together is more beneficial."



CALS Raises Awareness of Importance of 2020 Census with Forum, Outreach Efforts

Did you know that whether you respond to the 2020 US Census will determine whether your community receives federal dollars for important projects such as highway funding, Medicaid, senior programs, and feeding programs for families at risk of going hungry?

CALS is working with community partners to raise awareness and increase participation in the 2020 US Census in our area. Thanks to a grant from the American Library Association, the library system will send its outreach vehicle to areas of Pulaski County that were undercounted during the 2010 Census. Trained CALS library staff will bring iPads to provide internet access and to help people confidentially through the online process of answering the Census.

For the first time in 2020, the US Census will plan to process 60% of its Census responses online. This change has prompted some concern that populations without digital skills or internet access may be undercounted, particularly the elderly, according to Kara Wilkins, 2020 Census Coordinator at Arkansas Impact Philanthropy.

Wilkins spoke at the CALS Nixon Library along with three other presenters for the “Issues that Matter” forum on the 2020 Census, which was moderated by Michael Hibblen of KUAR and sponsored by CALS, KUAR, and the League of Women Voters.

Fort Smith Mayor George McGill also spoke at the forum, which was recorded for radio and is available for listening at www.ualpublicradio.org/.

“Most people don’t understand that much of the state’s budget is driven by dollars that are determined by the Census,” Mayor McGill said. As chair of the State Complete Count Committee, he emphasized the importance of encouraging communities to avoid being undercounted. “Our tax dollars go to the federal government, and we would like to get a



return,” McGill said.

The Central Arkansas Library System will also be dedicating digital devices to census takers at 13 branch libraries across the system, and staff will be trained to help all who may need assistance to use the devices and understand how to answer online.

Col. (ret.) Nancy Shefflette said at the forum that she was hopeful that the digital access might also have an upside. “Maybe it will convince people that the Census isn’t such a big deal if they can just go find a computer and put their information in.” Shefflette is co-chair of the Jacksonville Census 2020 Committee.

Online responses will be the first option for roll-out, but Jennifer Chilcoat of the Arkansas State Library wants people to remember that there are other ways to respond.

“It’s very important that people understand that online is not their only option.” Chilcoat

explained that especially in communities where high percentages of residents don’t have internet access, they should know that they can also respond with a paper mailing form or by telephone.

The CALS outreach vehicle and dedicated digital devices will be helping to bring online access to those who may be unfamiliar with computers or lack internet service. Census taking will occur from mid-March through April 2020.

If you would like to respond to the 2020 Census online, please call or visit any CALS library branch beginning in mid-March for more information or assistance.

The next Issues That Matter forum will take place on Thursday, March 12, at 6:00 pm at the Hillary Rodham Clinton Children’s Library and will focus on literacy. View the schedule and full details at cals.org.

adult programs

Programs listed here include only regular meetings (weekly unless otherwise indicated). Find many more branch library events online at cals.org.

dee brown library

People’s Kitchen

THU | MAR 19; APR 23; MAY 28 | 5 PM

Repair Café

SUN | MAR 22; APR 19; MAY 31 | 2 PM

Entrepreneurial Workshop

THU | APR 2-MAY 28 | 6 PM
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

fletcher library

Socrates Café

WED | 6-8 PM

main library

Meditation at Main

MON | MAR 9, 23; APR 13, 27; MAY 11 |
NOON-12:45 PM

Memoir Writing for Seniors

TUE | 12:30-2 PM | REGISTRATION
PREFERRED

Tabletop Tuesdays

TUE | 5-7:30 PM

Seditious Stitchery

THU | 5-7:30 PM

Yoga

FRI | NOON-1 PM

CALS Writing Circle

SAT | MAR 28; APR 25; MAY TBD | 3-4:30 PM

maumelle library

Central Arkansas Bonsai Society

SAT | MAR 14; APR 11; MAY 9 | 10 AM-2 PM

Art Night

MON | MAR 30; APR 27 | 6:30 PM

mcmath library

Movie Night

WED | MAR 4; APR 1; MAY 6 | 5:45-7:30 PM

Budget-Friendly Design

MON | MAR 9; APR 13 | 5-7 PM

Socrates Café

WED | MAR 11; APR 8; MAY 13 | 6-8 PM

Budget-Friendly Design

SAT | MAY 16 | 4-5:45 PM

milam library

Perry County History & Genealogy

TUE | MAR 10; APR 14; MAY 12 | 7 PM

Sew Much Fun

MON | MAR 2, 16; APR 6, 20; MAY 4, 18 |
3:30 PM

nixon library

English as a Second Language

MON | 10 AM-NOON

Adult Sewing Class

THU | MAR 19; APR 16; MAY 21 | 4-6 PM
REGISTRATION REQUIRED: 457-5038

Adult Activity Time

WED | NOON-2 PM

roberts library

Finding Family Facts

MON | MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11 | 3:30-5 PM

The Artist’s Way Writing Seminar

SAT | APR 4-JUN 27 | NOON-2 PM
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

rooker library

Painting Class

MON | MAR 16; APR 6; MAY 11 | 6 PM

Jewelry Class

MON | MAR 23; APR 13; MAY 18 | 6 PM

sanders library

Fiddlesticks

THU | 1-3 PM

Canasta

MON | 2-5 PM

terry library

Falun Gong Meditation

SAT | MAR 14, 28; APR 11, 25; MAY 9, 23 |
9:30 AM

Socrates Café

THU | MAR 19; APR 16; MAY 21 | 6-8 PM

thompson library

Knitting Circle

MON | 1-2 PM

Game Club

MON | 2-3 PM

French Conversation

TUE | MAR 3; MAY 5 | 6-7 PM

Spanish Conversation

TUE | MAR 10; MAY 12 | 6-7 PM

Fit & Fun

SAT | 10-11 AM

williams library

Technology Time

MON | 10:30 AM-NOON

Craft Sense

TUE | MAR 3; APR 7; MAY 5 | 6 PM

Crafting Circle

TUE | MAR 5; APR 2; MAY 7 | 6 PM

F.Y.I.

THU | MAR 19; APR 16; MAY 21 | 6 PM

Community Discussion Group

TUE | MAR 24; APR 28; MAY 26



Six Bridges Book Festival Brings New Name to Popular Celebration

Bestselling writers, Emmy and Grammy winners, debut authors, performers, chefs, and musicians will light up city venues this April for the well-loved annual community celebration now known as the Six Bridges Book Festival.

The four-day reading extravaganza in the Little Rock metropolitan area will feature more than 60 authors in panels, workshops, activities, and special events. Once again, the Fest will offer a range of genres to please everyone. Whether you want to be thrilled by suspense, time travel with historical fiction, dream of romance, pick up a delicious new recipe, dig into a science or cultural topic, explore a rock star's life, contemplate aspects of faith, or enjoy a few belly laughs, the Fest has something for you.

Thanks to a grant from NEA Big Read, the Saturday keynote for the festival will be delivered by Tim O'Brien, author of the moving Vietnam war classic *The Things They Carried*.

Favorite returning festival events include Author! Author! (a party with the presenters), cooking workshops at Eggshells Kitchen Co., Pub or Perish sponsored by Arkansas Times, a teen poetry competition, an artist reception at Hearne Fine Art, a touring dramatic production from the Arkansas Arts Center (*The Wind in the Willows*), a pie competition at The Root Café, Writers in the Schools (WITS), a Classics in Context session (*Watership Down*), a Day of Reading sponsored by the Clinton Presidential Center, Makers Alley, and Little Readers Rock with the Junior League of Little Rock. A slate of programming for children and teens includes hands-on crafts, music, and more.

New to the festival will be a cooking workshop with a winner of Master Chef, Poetry in the Park hosted by House of Art, a music panel on Prince, Eminem, and James Brown; workshops on writing humor and on crafting through grief; and much more.



A new name, a new vision

Little Rock is known for its many striking bridges, which make elegant silhouettes across the Arkansas River and provide pleasure to so many people who walk and bike the river trail. Our bridges light the night with color for all who enter and leave the city—a beautiful symbol of progress and hope.

Bridges take us across barriers that seem impassable. Through human invention and determination, bridges overcome obstacles and open the way for new journeys and opportunities. Bridges unite diverse communities and bring people together. For these reasons, there could be no better name to honor both our metropolitan area and the mission of the festival.

The festival was previously known for 16 years as the Arkansas Literary Festival, and will continue to celebrate reading, literacy, stories and writing of all kinds.



The continuing success of the festival and its mission led CALS leadership to envision an even larger and more widely appealing festival for the future. By actively soliciting community input from all demographic groups and throughout the region, CALS plans to draw more people to experience the rich atmosphere of the festival and to see for themselves that the Six Bridges Book Festival offers something for everyone.

CALS Executive Director Nate Coulter looks forward to broadening the festival's appeal. "We are involving many people from our community in the selection of presenters and activities, so they know their reading interests and the stories that fascinate them are central to the festival," Coulter said.

"While the event has been a great success over the years as the Arkansas Literary Festival, we want a more inclusive and less formal image, which we believe the name Six Bridges Book Festival will convey," Coulter explained. "The festival is a diverse, energetic celebration of all kinds of stories and topics, both literary and mainstream, and we feel the new name reflects the festival's nature more accurately. Our goal is to draw a wider audience by removing any barriers of perception that this event is only for highbrow tastes."

Since the festival's inception, the event has been an important showcase for writers from all over the country, as well as locally based talent. Authors such as Sebastian Junger, Catherine Coulter, and Jamaica Kinkaid have mingled with critically acclaimed Arkansas writers such as novelist Kevin Brockmeier and state



poet laureate Jo McDougall. Cooking experts such as 5-time James Beard Award winner Dorie Greenspan have offered demos and judged the mouthwatering annual Pie Bake-Off.

Brad Mooy, the coordinator of the festival, looks forward to making the variety of the festival's offerings and presenters more widely known to the community. "The diversity of presenters has greatly expanded over the years," Mooy said. "We want to let people know that everyone is represented here, with topics

and interactive activities that appeal to all age levels, cultural backgrounds, and reading tastes."

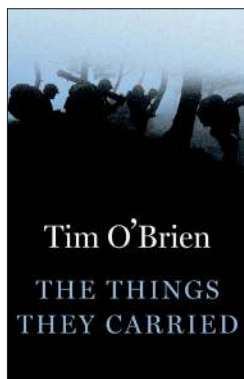
The 17th annual festival will take place April 23-26.

Most festival events are free and open to the public. A small number of events such as the author party do have an admission charge. Check listings at sixbridgesbookfestival.org for details.

For questions, please contact Brad Mooy at bmooy@cals.org or (501) 918-3098.



Join Us for NEA Big Read: CALS



An initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book.

CALS is one of 78 nonprofit organizations to receive an NEA Big Read grant to host a community reading. NEA Big Read: CALS events will take place between March 5 and April 28, 2020. Planned events include a keynote talk by Tim O'Brien, acclaimed author of Vietnam novel *The Things They Carried*; book clubs, readings and exhibits at CALS branch libraries; a film at the CALS Ron Robinson Theater; readings and discussions of *The Things They Carried* by private book clubs in the area; Vietnam veteran oral history recordings by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies staff in the CALS Bobby L. Roberts Library of Arkansas History & Art; performances by the Writeous Poets from Little Rock Central High School; special displays and discussions during the Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans event at the Jacksonville Museum of Military History, and other events.

talks, panels, and book discussions

The Things They Carried and the Art of Narrative Panel Discussion

DR. ALEX VERNON, DR. CATHERINE CALLOWAY,
AND GUY CHOATE
TUE | MAR 10 | 6-7:30 PM
AMY SANDERS LIBRARY

Legacies & Lunch: Dr. Cathleen Calloway

"THE VIETNAM WAR: ITS LEGACY IN LITERATURE"
WED | APR 1 | NOON-1 PM
MAIN LIBRARY, DARRAGH CENTER

Lens, Pens, and Lyrics – Remembering War Through Photography, Writing, and Song

BRUCE WESSON, PAT HOY, AND STEVE DEAN
SAT | APR 11 | 1 PM
MACARTHUR MUSEUM OF ARKANSAS MILITARY
HISTORY | 503 E. 9TH ST. | LITTLE ROCK

Tim O'Brien, Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Celebration

SAT | APR 25
JACKSONVILLE MUSEUM OF MILITARY
HISTORY | 100 VETERANS CIRCLE

Tim O'Brien, Six Bridges Book Festival

SAT | APR 25 | 6:30 PM
CALS RON ROBINSON THEATER

The Things They Carried Book Discussions

TUE | MAR 17 | 6-7 PM | SIDNEY S. MCMATH
LIBRARY

WED | MAR 18 | 4:30 PM | MILLIE BROOKS
LIBRARY

THU | MAR 19 | 10-11 AM | JOHN GOULD
FLETCHER LIBRARY

SAT | MAR 21 | 11:30 AM | SUE COWAN
WILLIAMS LIBRARY

THU | MAR 26 | 12:30 PM | MAX MILAM
LIBRARY

TUE | APR 7 | 6-7 PM | JOHN GOULD
FLETCHER LIBRARY

WED | APR 8 | NOON-1:30 PM | ADOLPHINE
FLETCHER TERRY LIBRARY

WED | APR 8 | 6:30-7:30 PM | ADOLPHINE
FLETCHER TERRY LIBRARY

MON | APR 13 | TIME TBA | MAUMELLE
LIBRARY

TUE | APR 28 | 6:30 PM | ROOSEVELT
THOMPSON LIBRARY

Additional activities may be found at cals.org/nea-big-read-cals. For questions or more information, please call Mark Christ at 918-3069.



film screenings

6 PM (DOORS OPEN 5 PM) | FREE | CALS RON ROBINSON THEATER UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

We Were Soldiers
THU | MAR 5

Full Metal Jacket
THU | MAR 12

Homecoming: A Vietnam Vets Journey
TUE | MAR 17 | 6:30 PM
MACARTHUR MUSEUM OF ARKANSAS
MILITARY HISTORY | 503 E. 9TH ST |
LITTLE ROCK

The Deer Hunter
THU | MAR 19

Born on the Fourth of July
THU | MAR 26

Good Morning Vietnam
THU | APR 2

Apocalypse Now
THU | APR 9

Platoon
THU | APR 16

These movies are underwritten by the Ottenheimer Library at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Six Bridges Book Boyfriend Battle

He's thoughtful. He's hot. He takes out the trash without being asked. Clearly, this dream guy doesn't exist...except in books. We've rounded up some of the best book boyfriends in the library and we want you to choose a winner. Here's how:

Go to sixbridgesbookfestival.org to vote each week from Monday at noon until Thursday at midnight. Brackets were due February 28, but you can vote even if you didn't submit a bracket!

All submissions with the winning answer will be put into a drawing for the grand prize: two tickets to the Six Bridges Book Festival Author party, two movie tickets to

the CALS Ron Robinson Theater, and signed copies of *Girl Gone Viral* by Alisha Rai and *Undercover Bromance* by Lyssa Kay Addams (both of whom will be at the Book Festival!).

Each week, everyone who votes will be put into a drawing for a prize. Winners may choose between two movie tickets to the CALS Ron Robinson Theater or \$10 in Basement Bucks for the Friends Used Book Sale. One entry per person per week; you can only win the weekly drawing once during the contest.

The grand prize winner and the Book Boyfriend Battle winner will be announced Friday, April 10.



movies

7 PM (DOORS OPEN 6 PM) | \$5 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED
CALS RON ROBINSON THEATER

cals con

Batman (1989, PG-13)

SAT | MAR 7 | 6 PM (DOORS OPEN 5PM) | FREE

rudy tuesdays

Celebrate the legacy of Rudy Ray Moore.

Dolemite (R)

TUE | MAR 3

The Human Tornado (R)

TUE | MAR 10

Dolemite is My Name (R)

TUE | MAR 17 | FRÉE

bingoflix

Play bingo along to hilarious movie clichés as we watch so-bad-it's-good cinema classics. Win prizes including tickets to upcoming events at the theater!

The Human Tornado (R)

TUE | MAR 10

Reefer Madness (PG)

TUE | APR 14

The Horror of Party Beach (NR)

TUE | MAY 12

back to the future trilogy

Back to the Future (PG)

TUE | APR 21

Back to the Future Part II (PG)

TUE | APR 28

Back to the Future Part III (PG)

TUE | MAY 5

movie and book signing

They Shall Not Grow Old

SUN | MAY 3 | 2 PM (DOORS OPEN 1 PM) | FREE

After the movie, Mark Christ will sign copies of his book, *The War at Home*. Books will be available for purchase.

made in arkansas film festival

MAY 14-16 | DAY PASSES AND FULL FESTIVAL PASSES
WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON AT CALS.ORG

double feature

SAT | MAY 30 | \$5 FOR BOTH

Jaws (PG) | 6 PM (DOORS OPEN 5 PM)

Rocky Horror Picture Show (R) | 9 PM

Into the Woods: Arkansas Champion Trees by Linda Williams Palmer & Turned-Wood Vessels by Gene Sparling

Lovers of the woods will be thrilled by the exhibition now showing at Library Square, which is a celebration of the natural beauty of Arkansas's trees through both masterful drawing and innovative woodcraft.

Now through April 25, visitors can see the work of artists Linda Williams Palmer and Gene Sparling at the Galleries at Library Square in downtown Little Rock. Palmer has created her "Champion Trees" series highlighting the breathtaking size and beauty of the largest trees in Arkansas, working in Prismacolor pencil on paper. Sparling uses the wood from native trees to create his sculptural turned-wood vessels that provide another way to appreciate the beauty of the trees.

Palmer's delicate, stunningly detailed drawings have a larger purpose that will touch those who care about preserving the natural world.

"These magnificent champion trees have a lifespan—they're not going to be with us always," Palmer said. "Even since I started this project, we've lost a number of them, just to natural events and age. We're called the Natural State and Arkansans have always taken pride in the beauty of the lands here, but how many people know that there is such a thing as a champion trees list? So, I wanted to draw attention to the

trees, so people will be aware of this treasure for Arkansas. And if there is a special tree on their land or one nearby their homes, I hope they will feel inspired to protect these trees."

Both Sparling and Palmer had thought before this exhibition that their work might make a powerful artistic pairing.

"Gene's pieces are often made from the woods around his home," Palmer noted, "So his work is Arkansas wood, and my work is Arkansas champion trees. And one of my favorite things about this exhibition is the way that the floor of this gallery, Concordia Hall, is also made from Arkansas woods! That made 'Into the Woods' the perfect title, because when you are walking into the exhibition you are literally walking into the 'woods' in every way, walking on the wood and into the woods."

Palmer's technique is unusual due to her painstaking, lengthy process in using layered, fine lines of Prismacolor pencils to create such large pieces. Anyone who has ever worked with colored pencil knows that it is a demanding medium, because, as Barbara Satterfield states in the book on Palmer's work titled *Champion Trees of Arkansas*, "colored pencils make slim lines, and layering cannot be erased." Nonetheless, Palmer is dedicated to the result, and has sometimes

spent more than 200 hours on each of her largest drawings.

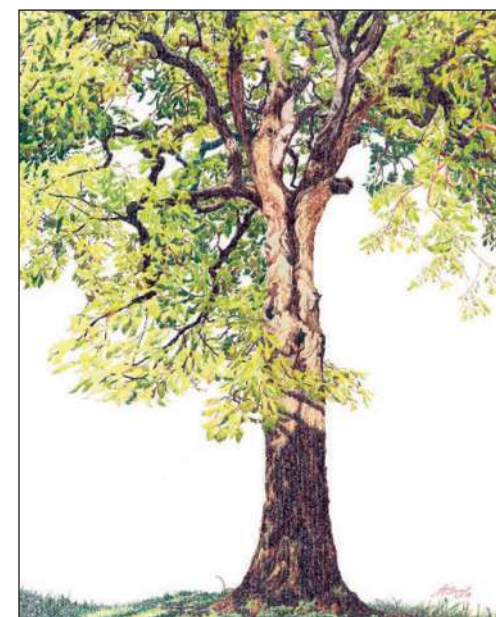
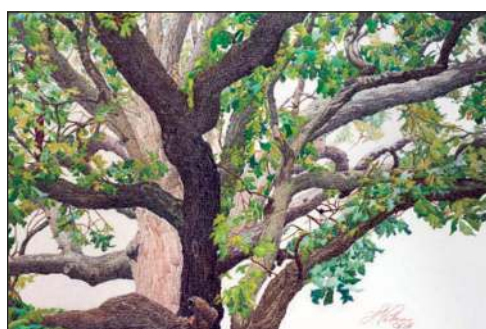
Sparling has his own innovative techniques in wood turning that give his work a unique style.

"By far the majority of my turned-vessel work is natural-edge wood," Sparling said. "Most of the bowls are turned on a lathe, and it's how I turn it that determines the shape. I'm known for producing asymmetrical shapes by where I take it out of the tree. Lathework by its nature tends to be symmetrical, and I work to escape that restriction."

Sparling sees the potential of varying colors of heartwood and sapwood, then uses unusual angles to set off that rich variation and pattern, which creates an exciting sense of movement in his works. Sparling's great gift is making wood look malleable, through his original, extremely offset approach to the lathe that produces such distinctive, asymmetrical pieces.

Don't miss the chance to revel in these two artistic views of the beauty of Arkansas's trees before the *Into the Woods* exhibition closes on April 25.

Linda Williams Palmer and Gene Sparling are both represented by Dolores Justus of Justus Fine Art Gallery in Hot Springs.





art exhibitions

Inside and Out: Figurative Works by Robert Bean, Jeremy Couch, and Logan Hunter

JAN 10-MAR 28 | THE GALLERIES AT LIBRARY SQUARE

Into the Woods: Arkansas Champion Trees by Linda Williams Palmer and Turned-Wood Vessels by Gene Sparling

JAN 10-APR 25 | THE GALLERIES AT LIBRARY SQUARE

Guy Choate with Evan Hallmark

MAR 13-APR 1 | BOOKSTORE AT LIBRARY SQUARE

Mid-Southern Watercolorists 50th Annual Juried Exhibition

MAR 13-JUN 27 | THE GALLERIES AT LIBRARY SQUARE

Bitter Sacrifices: Art & Writing from Arkansas's WWII Relocation Centers

APR 10-JUL 25 | GALLERIES AT LIBRARY SQUARE

Eric Freeman

APR 10-30 | BOOKSTORE AT LIBRARY SQUARE

Arkansas League of Artists: Members' Exhibition

MAY 8-AUG 29 | GALLERIES AT LIBRARY SQUARE

James Hayes Glass Works

MAY 8-JUN 4 | BOOKSTORE AT LIBRARY SQUARE



speakers, forums, and panels

Legacies & Lunch: Kelly Houston Jones

"RACE AND WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN ARKANSAS"

WED | MAR 4 | NOON-1 PM | CALS MAIN LIBRARY, DARRAGH CENTER

Issues That Matter: The Need to Read

THU | MAR 12 | 6 PM | HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON CHILDREN'S LIBRARY & LEARNING CENTER

Oxford-American South Words: Leesa Cross-Smith

TUE | MAR 31 | 6:30 PM (DOORS OPEN 6 PM) | CALS RON ROBINSON THEATER

Legacies & Lunch: Catherine Calloway

"THE VIETNAM WAR: ITS LEGACY IN LITERATURE"

WED | APR 1 | NOON-1PM | CALS MAIN LIBRARY, DARRAGH CENTER

CALS Speaker Series: Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried*

SAT | APR 25 | 7 PM | CALS RON ROBINSON THEATER

Award-winning author and former reporter for *The Washington Post*, Tim O'Brien was sent to fight in Vietnam as a foot soldier in 1969. Published in 1990 to vast critical acclaim, *The Things They Carried* is part memoir, part fiction. The novel has sold over two million copies worldwide and was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. O'Brien's appearance is part of the annual Six Bridges Book Festival and is sponsored in part by the NEA Big Read: CALS.

Legacies & Lunch: Brian Robertson

"THE ARKANSAS VIETNAM WAR PROJECT: AN UPDATE"

WED | MAY 6 | NOON-1 PM | CALS MAIN LIBRARY, DARRAGH CENTER

Oxford-American South Words: Beth Macy

TUE | MAY 19 | 6:30 PM (DOORS OPEN 6 PM) | CALS RON ROBINSON THEATER

concerts

Little Rock School District All-City Jazz Band

FRI | MAR 3 | 7 PM (DOORS OPEN 6 PM) | FREE

Chris Smither

FRI | MAR 20 | 7 PM (DOORS OPEN 6 PM) | \$20

A profound songwriter, a blistering guitarist, and an intense performer, Chris Smither draws deeply from blues and folk music.

Jaimie Branch's Fly or Die

SAT | MAR 21 | 8 PM (DOORS OPEN 7 PM) | \$15 ADVANCE / \$20 DAY OF SHOW

American avant-garde trumpeter and composer Jaimie Branch is a free jazz performer with a style steeped in her own modern creative improvisation.

Rodney Block presents The Gospel According to Jazz

FRI | MAR 27 | 8 PM (DOORS OPEN 7 PM) | \$15 ADVANCE, \$20 DAY OF SHOW

Trumpeter and bandleader Rodney Block explores the connections and overlaps of gospel and jazz music with his band and special guests.

Dogtown Ukulele

FRI | APR 10 | 8 PM (DOORS OPEN 7 PM) | \$5

Experience the fun of a 7 piece all ukulele rock band.

Rev. Greg Spradlin & Special Guests

FRI | MAY 8 | 8 PM (DOORS OPEN 7 PM) | \$20

A musician and writer who has been playing music professionally since before he could drive, Greg Spradlin is known as the "best guitarist in Arkansas."

Milam Library to Dedicate Public Meeting Room in Honor of Charlie May Simon

Your library system provides free and low-cost meeting rooms to the public at 15 branches across Pulaski and Perry counties. The CALS Max Milam Library in Perryville has a lovely executive-style conference room that can host up to 50 people for anything from a business meeting to a baby shower. Those serving food have access to a kitchen including refrigerator, microwave, sink, and dishwasher.

On March 10, the Perry County Historical and Genealogical Society will meet at the room for a celebration and room dedication in honor of Charlie May Simon, one of Perry County's best-known citizens. Charlie May is among the state's most prolific authors, known chiefly for her children's literature but also well-respected for her writing for adults. Born in Arkansas as Charlie May Hogue, she moved to Tennessee in her youth but returned to Arkansas during the Great Depression with her husband, artist Howard Simon, where they built a log cabin in Perry County. The rustic lifestyle agreed with Charlie May but not with Howard, and the couple eventually divorced. Charlie May Simon went on to marry famed Arkansas poet John Gould Fletcher and have her own long and illustrious career as a writer.

(For more on Charlie May Simon, see the CALS Encyclopedia of Arkansas at encyclopediaofarkansas.net.)

Simon's life and work as a resident of Perry County will be honored by the dedication of the meeting room in her name. Talented artist and Milam Library branch manager Allen Jarvis has painted her commemorative portrait, which will be unveiled at the event on March 10. In addition, Tim Nutt, Director of the Historical Research Center at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, will give a presentation on Charlie May Simon's life during her time in Perry County.

The choice of the room's dedication is also a nod to the Perry County Historical and Genealogical Society, which has been meeting at the library since it first opened in 1993. "We chose an honoree like Charlie May Simon, who is significant to Perry County history, to honor our long relationship with the Society," said Jarvis.

The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, with the presentation to follow at 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.



Photographers Show Small Libraries Make a Big Difference

Don House and Sabine Schmidt belong to a special breed of photographers. Instead of relying on the digital wizardry available today through cameras and computers, they use mechanical cameras from the 1960s that do not even require batteries. When they develop their prints, they do so by hand in a darkroom, or by working with specialized laboratories, creating silver gelatin and chromogenic prints, usually without cropping the images and instead using only the natural frame of the camera. It's a treat to see them at work, as we did here at CALS when they visited our Millie Brooks Library, which became the sixteenth tiny library to be photographed for their new project.

Under the working title Remote Access, the art photography book will feature portraits of people who use



tiny libraries throughout Arkansas, as well as the libraries themselves and the communities they serve. Robert Cochran, Director of the Center for Arkansas Regional Studies at the University of Arkansas, will write the introduction to the book as part of an ongoing series called "Arkansas Character."

During a break in the shoot, House explained why they had chosen tiny libraries as a subject for their project. "Sabine and I live not far from the small library of St. Paul, Arkansas. Watching that small library and the librarian, and what they do in the community, was the inspiration for this work."

Schmidt added, "The St. Paul library is staffed mostly by volunteers, and so all the programming they do is because they want to benefit the community – reading programs, yoga, knitting, history talks, potlucks, films, and more."

The two became interested in the central role frequently played by these libraries in small towns, as libraries often serve as the primary gathering space for education, recreation, and socialization, and increasingly non-traditional roles as well: a source for social services, help with job applications, résumé writing, and tax reporting.

House has developed a new perspective through their

observations. "I think before we started work on the project, I had kind of an old-school idea about what a library does. But the role of a librarian in a small library is much more than people might think."

Jammel Johnson, Library Assistant at the Millie Brooks Library, agreed. "We wear a lot of hats!" he said, chuckling. "I think my major impact has been working with the elderly on the computers." He also enjoys the way his job allows him to help kids. "Whether they have a need for our food programs or they just need a safe place to spend time, play games, or read, we really operate like a household," Johnson said. "We're very family oriented."

Patrons stopped by during the afternoon to have their special portraits made, in this petite library so narrow that House had to place his lights and camera in awkward positions. A bookshelf will appear in each portrait due to the condensed space. The effect is perfect, a nostalgic reminder that for all of the other roles and offerings—computer and internet access, games, DVDs, a safe and stimulating place to gather in their home town—books continue to form a foundation on which libraries are built.

The book is scheduled to be published by University of Arkansas Press.

design

Promote Your Thing: Canva.com

Quickly and easily create great promotional materials for online or print use.

Make it Look Great with Microsoft Publisher

Create newsletters, flyers, postcards, and other publications with simple steps.

Getting Started with Adobe InDesign CC

Learn the basics of this desktop publishing application used to create posters, flyers, brochures, magazines, newspapers, presentations, books and ebooks.

Getting Started with Adobe Illustrator CC

Learn the industry-standard vector graphics software for creating logos, icons, drawings, typography, and illustrations for print, web, video, and mobile.

computer essentials

Introduction to Computers

Are computers a mystery to you? This class starts at the most basic level, so you can learn how--and why--to use a computer.

Basic Computing

Explore topics like search, common computer programs and file types, and using the file manager.

Keyboarding Basics

Go from "hunt and peck" to typing without looking at the keyboard in this self-paced course with practice time.

Surf Secure

Learn to protect your personal information and your privacy in the digital world.

21st century skills

Create Your Website with WordPress

Over three sessions, learn how to create and manage a website using the WordPress content management system.

Hello World: Intro to Code

Learn basic techniques and concepts of writing computer programs--and write your first program!

Hello World: Object-Oriented Code

After learning the basics in Hello World: Intro to Code, expand your skills with object-oriented programming.

digital library

Your Digital Library: eBooks, Audiobooks, and More

Get the scoop on checking out eBooks, audiobooks, and magazines to enjoy for free on your tablet, smartphone, or e-reader through OverDrive and Flipster.

Your Digital Library: Video, Music, and More

Use your CALS card to get free access to great content online, including video streaming and unlimited audiobooks with RBDigital and music with Freegal.

Library Resources for the Job Hunt

Find out about the digital library resources that can make your job hunt more effective, including resume-building, professional development, and other useful tools.

CALS 101: Find It All at CALS.org

The CALS website is a great place to find our huge collection of books and other materials, but there's so much more you can do! In this brief session, you'll learn how to confidently navigate the website to access entertainment, research tools, and library resources; to purchase event tickets; and much more.

microsoft excel

Microsoft Excel Part 1: The Basics

Learn how to enter information, format text and numbers, sort and filter, and use basic formulas.

Microsoft Excel Part 2: Formulas and Charts

Master more advanced formulas, eye-catching charts, copy-and-paste, Autofill, and more.

Microsoft Excel Part 3: Lookup, Conditional Formatting, and More

Learn to use the VLOOKUP function, add automatic styles and color-coding to your data, and more.

Microsoft Excel Part 4: PivotTables and Advanced Formulas

Employ PivotTables to find patterns in your data, and learn more advanced formula techniques.

photography

Photo Restoration with Adobe Photoshop CC: Level 1

Discover techniques to restore old and damaged photos: repair fading, tears, mold, and other wear, correct exposure, replace backgrounds, fill missing body parts.

Smartphone Photography

Learn the strengths and limitations of your smartphone's camera to take pictures that really stand out.

Adobe Photoshop CC for Beginners

Level 1: Learn basic skills like correcting colors and lighting, scaling and cropping photos, and working with layers. Level 2: Use layers and apply gradients, styles, and effects to layers. Create and edit masks and channels.

For class times and dates, please see our events calendar at cals.org.



book clubs

Book clubs are open to adults unless otherwise noted.

bookstore at library square

Stephen King Rules!

FRI | MAR 27; APR 24; MAY 29 | 6 PM
MAR: *Drawing of the Three*
APR: *Misery*
MAY: *The Tommyknockers*

dee brown library

Cookbook Potluck Club

THU | MAR 5; APR 16; MAY 21 | 6 PM
Select a recipe from the book on display and show up with your prepared dish to share.

fletcher library

Page Turners Book Club

WED | MAR 11; APR ; MAY | 6:30-7:30 PM
MAR: *Miss Julia Speaks Her Mind* by Ann Ross
APR: *The Storied Life of AJ Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin
MAY: *The 100-Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of a Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson

Book Junkies Book Group

TUE | MAR 17; APR 21; MAY 19 | NOON-1 PM
MAR: *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate
APR: *The Other Typist* by Suzanne Rindell
MAY: *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

main library

Voyager's Book Club

MON | MAR 13, 27; APR 10, 24; MAY 8, 22 | 2-4 PM
Call the library for titles.

maumelle library

2nd Monday Book Club

MON | MAR 9; APR 13; MAY 11 | 7-8 PM
MAR: *Rebecca* by Daphne DuMaurier
APR: *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
MAY: *Ginger Tree* by Oswald Wyn

mcmath library

Book Club at the End of the Universe

MON | MAR 2; APR 6; MAY 4 | 6:30-7:30 PM
This sci-fi and fantasy discussion group has no assigned reading.
Girlfriends Book & Brunch Club
SAT | MAR 14; APR 18; MAY 23 | 2-4 PM
Call library for monthly titles.

milam library

Adult Book Chat

THU | MAR 26; APR 23; MAY 28 | 12:30-1:30 PM
MAR: *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
APR: *Dragonfly* by Leila Meacham
MAY: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Richardson

nixon library

True Stories Book Club

THU | MAR 12; APR 9; MAY 14 | 2-3 PM
MAR: *The Lost City of Z* by David Grann
APR: *Educated* by Tara Westover
MAY: *Furious Hours* by Casey Cep

Nixon Book Buddies

TUE | MAR 24; APR 28; MAY 26 | 6:30-7:30 PM
MAR: *Too Much Happiness* by Alice Munro
APR: *Call the Midwife* by Jennifer Worth
MAY: *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

sanders library

Page Turners

THU | MAR 5; APR 2; MAY 7 | 10:30-11:30 AM
MAR: *The Twelve Tribes of Hattie* by Ayana Mathis
APR: *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn
MAY: *The Cellist of Sarajevo* by Steven Galloway

terry library

Pizza Plus a Paperback

THU | MAR 5; APR 2; MAY 7 | 5-6 PM
Ages 8-12 talk about books, eat pizza, and participate in book-themed activities.

Suspicious Minds Book Club

THU | MAR 5; APR 2; MAY 7 | 6:15-7:30 PM
A book club for mystery lovers. Contact the library for book titles.

Book Lover's Book Club

TUE | MAR 17; APR 21; MAY 19 | 11 AM-NOON
We read fiction and nonfiction. Contact the library for titles.

thompson library

Evening Book Club

TUE | MAR 24; APR 28; MAY 26 | 6:30-7:30 PM
MAR: *There, There* by Tommy Orange
APR: *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
MAY: *The House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende

Cookbook Club

FRI | MAR 6 | 11:30 AM-1 PM
MON APR 13, MAY 11 5:30-6:30 PM
MAR: Vegan food
APR: Literary theme
MAY: Korean food
Share favorite recipes based on each month's theme.

vino's brewpub

Word Virus Book Club

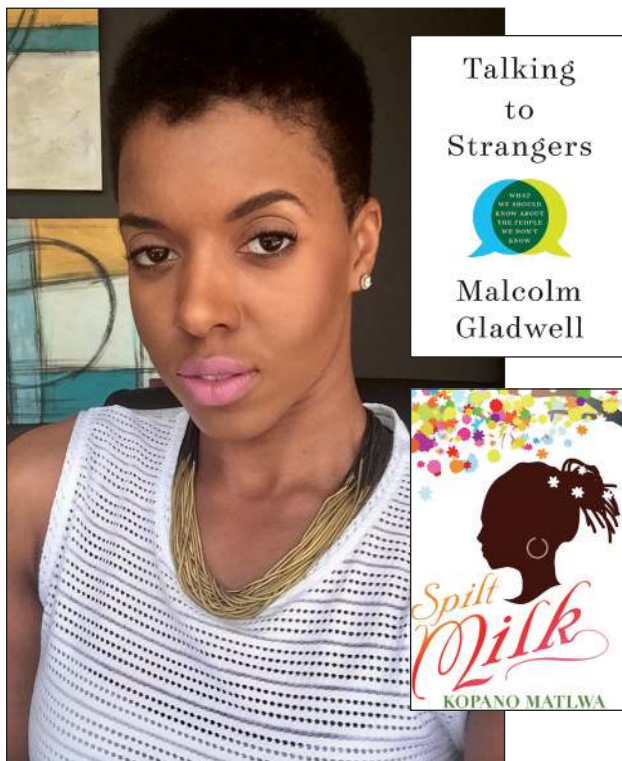
SAT | MAR 14; APR 11; MAY 9 | NOON-2 PM
MAR: *The Black God's Drums* by P. Djeli Clark
APR: *Riot Baby* by Tochi Onyebuchi
MAY: *The Library of the Unwritten* by A.J. Hackwith

williams library

And the Beat Goes On

SAT | MAR 28; APR 25; MAY 23 | 10:30 AM
MAR: *Decoded* by Jay-Z
APR: *She Begat This: 20 Years of the Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* by Joan Morgan
MAY: *The Autobiography of Gucci Mane* by Gucci Mane

What are You Reading? Stephanie Jackson



Stephanie Jackson is a believer, wife, mom, Director of Public and Media Relations at The Design Group, and Communications Director and Spokesman for the Office of Mayor Frank Scott, Jr.

In her words:

I was born and raised in Little Rock, a product of Little Rock public schools, and I obtained my BA in Broadcast Journalism from UA-Little Rock. In my spare time, I love to listen to podcasts and (if there's any more time to spare) sleep!

What have you been reading lately?

I recently finished *Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know About the People We Don't Know* by one of my favorite authors, Malcolm Gladwell.

Next on my list is *Spilt Milk* by Kopano Matlwa. She is a South African author I discovered during my family's 2019 summer vacation to that country.

What book or other media do you keep coming back to again and again?

I love *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell and often refer to the "ten-thousand hour rule," especially when I'm encouraging my daughter in her pursuits. (Gladwell's rule proposes that achieving total mastery of any skill is largely a matter of practicing the correct way for a total of around 10,000 hours.)

What role has reading played in your life?

I can best answer this question with this quote by our beloved James Baldwin: "You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read. It was books that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, who had ever been alive." (We're much more alike than we are different...)

Friends Used Book Sale

Main Library Basement | Library Square | 100 Rock St.

THU | MAR 12 | 5-7 PM (FRIENDS OF CALS MEMBERS ONLY)

FRI | MAR 13 | 10 AM-6 PM (FRIENDS OF CALS MAY ENTER AT 9 A.M.)

SAT | MAR 14 | 10 AM-4 PM (FRIENDS OF CALS MAY ENTER AT 9 A.M.)

MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR.

Who are Friends?

For over 50 years, Friends of Central Arkansas Libraries have provided support through advocacy, fundraising, and promotional programs. As a Friend of CALS, you play a vital role in the success of your library. Join today at cals.org/friends.

I got this book for only \$2!





Arkansas Art Thrives at CALS

Artist Kevin Kresse, who has three children and lives with his wife in Little Rock, explained what this piece of art means to him:

“I’ve always tried to use people close to me as models for my work when I can. I used my next-door neighbor Darryl Jordan and his son James for this piece. There is an honesty to their relationship that comes through to make this sculpture work.

“After Bridget and I became parents, reading to the kids became a top priority. We started when they were infants and continued well after they were reading on their own. The library visit was part of a regular routine, and we credit that with their love of reading and self-education as grown kids. I’ve always loved to make public pieces that show seemingly everyday actions, which are actually critically important, placed on the heroic level. I would love to make a monumental-size version of this piece someday. I’m very proud this sculpture is part of the Central Arkansas

Library System’s collection of Arkansas art, and I appreciate the support CALS has consistently shown to Arkansas artists.”

CALS Art Program

There are 1,600 pieces of art in the CALS art collection either on display inside or outside one of our branch libraries, including the buildings downtown at Library Square, or in the climate-controlled, secure collection storage area.

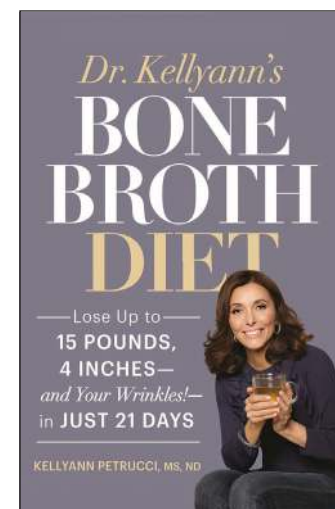
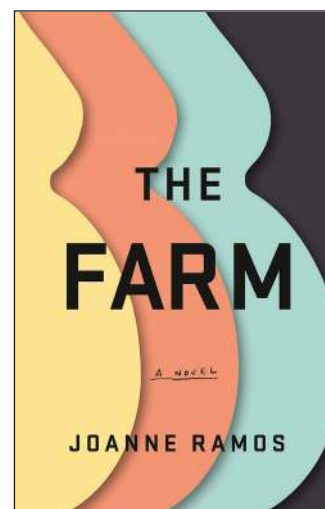
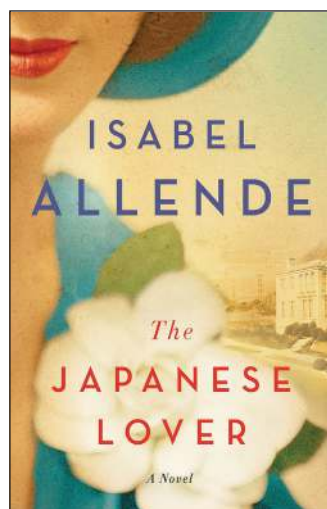
We believe that the arts preserve and transmit our heritage, enrich our lives, and contribute significantly to the social, educational, and cultural well-being of all Arkansans. CALS’s mission is to provide a venue for the study, practice, and enjoyment of the arts and artists of Arkansas, and this includes an emphasis on Arkansas natives, current residents of the state, or people whose artwork deals with Arkansas-related themes.


Kevin Kresse, artist: Knowledge Is Power—bronze sculpture, commissioned and installed in 2013 for the opening of the CALS Millie Brooks Library

Staff Picks: Pam Rudkin

I’m an avid book downloader. Often my reading time is in the dark in bed with my iPad, so downloading a book from Overdrive or Libby, even at midnight, is very appealing to me. Most recently I’ve been reading *The Farm* by Joanne Ramos as well as a diet book called *Dr. Kellyann’s Bone Broth Diet* by Kellyann Petrucci. The diet book I pull up on my phone while at the grocery store to refresh my memory about what healthy foods I need to stock up on. Then, in the morning while getting ready for work, I’m listening to an audiobook called *The Japanese Lover* by Isabel Allende. These three books couldn’t be more different from each other, yet they all serve a different purpose in my life. The mysterious, the practical, and the melancholy. Without my downloadables, I’d never be able to enjoy all these fun parts of my mind and imagination.

Pam Rudkin is a Branch Services Coordinator at CALS.





**A library outranks
any other one thing a
community can do to
benefit its people. It is
a never failing spring
in the desert.**

Andrew Carnegie

**Help us benefit our community.
Go to [CALS.org](https://cals.org) for information
on giving to the library.**

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